

JOPPA/JOPPATOWNE COMMUNITY COUNCIL

Meeting Number 105 (06-10)

June 7, 2010

The Joppa/Joppatowne Community meetings are held the first Monday of each month at the Joppatowne High School beginning at 7:00 P.M. Everyone is welcome to attend and participate. Meeting Number 105 was called to order at 7:06 P.M. by Chairperson Chris Rohe, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. Members present were Paula Mullis, Chris Rohe, Ron Sollod, Gloria Moon and Doris Carey. Chairman Chris Rohe recognized and welcomed members of the community and acknowledged special guest Kimberly K. Spence, Chief, Harford County Budget & Management Research. Paula Mullis moved and Gloria Moon seconded the approval of the May minutes.

Kimberly K. Spence, Chief, Harford County Budget & Management Research.

Ms. Spence reported that the Harford County's FY 2011 budget was approved the first night of its presentation to the County Council. She said the budget process was started in late August of 2009 by listening to the county's citizens. All outside agencies were visited by department heads to see where they could cut 5% of their budgets. The county's operating budget for FY 2011 is \$580,396,381 and the capital budget is \$124,508,195. Kimberly Spence stated that the budget would go into effect July 1, 2010. There will be no furloughs and no lay offs. Fifty three employees opted to retire, saving the county \$1 million in salaries. The county restored \$200,000 to public libraries. There will not be a lot left in the capital budget this year. Kimberly Spence also stated that next year there may be big challenges with the budget. The State is looking to require the County to pay a part of the educators' pensions next school year. Chris Rohe thanked Ms. Spence for her presentation.

Chris Rohe stated that ~~at the time of the September's meeting there will be early voting. The school where we meet is a preeinct.~~ four years ago the meeting the day before the primary elections was sparsely attended. He wanted to know if there was interest in either moving or cancelling the meeting. Members voted to cancel the September meeting. Gloria Moon moved and Ron Sollod seconded that our first meeting of the year will be in October. Chris Rohe distributed to the council several interesting articles from *The Aegis*.

Ron Sollod mentioned that the firemen's convention this year is in Ocean City. He also shared that when the air is dry, fire will spread and all must be aware of how quickly fire can start. Everyone is encouraged to change batteries in smoke alarms when the time changes each year. Residential sprinklers are required July 1 for new structures. Sprinkler systems do the job and save lives.

Gloria Moon said that planning and zoning gave the timeline for the Master Plan which will kick off on February 2011. She wanted to know whether the boundaries of the community councils should be expanded and whether or not there is interest in the Master Plan. She mentioned that candidates' night for District 7 will be held at the Joppa/Magnolia Fire Hall on August 26 at 7 P.M. Paula Mullis volunteered to be the moderator. There is a need for questions to be asked of the candidates. People need to be invited, a time keeper is needed and someone is needed to do the advertising.

Marlon Gittins, Chairperson of the Edgewood/Joppa Independence parade shared updates on the parade. There are joint ventures with the Joppa and Edgewood areas to raise funds to pay for the transportation of bands to be in the parade. The goal is to raise \$8,200. The parade this year will be held on July 3 at 6 P.M. The next parade meeting will be on Thursday, June 17. If there are questions or suggestions concerning the parade you may log on to www.edgewoodjoppatowneparade.org.

Community member, Ron Chapman, is interested in providing a community website, www.edgewoodjoppalive.com. The purpose of the website is to encourage community members and local businesses to post questions and suggestions for the good of the community. The website will be very interactive and information can be posted free. The website will be connected to Google. It will not indorse candidates. A page will be formatted for neighborhood events.

Paula Mullis said that the blood drive has been completed and was very successful. She plans to run for the Republican Central Committee.

Doris Carey mentioned that Harford Community College's new president, Dr. Dennis Golloday will begin his work on August 1. On August 19, a reception will be given in Dr. Golloday's honor so that members of the public can meet him.

The Community Council meeting was adjourned at 8:25 P.M.

Minutes by Doris Carey